Reports received indicate that Magdalla Shipping Yard (Pvt) Ltd. Surat assembled an oil rig and supplied to ESSAR Investments Ltd., in 1990.

M/s. Essar World Trade Limited, Bombay had filed an application on 21st June, 1993 with the office of the Director General, Foreign Trade for grant of Value Based Advance Licence for CIF value of Rs. 14,81,66,000/- for import of components for execution of an order for export of one number on-shore rig for a f.o.b. value of Rs. 20,36,47,500/-. The export order dated 9th May, 1993 was from Trans Energy Limited, St. Peter Port, Gurnsoy CI. The consignee was mentioned as Arab Drilling Workover Co., Libya and supporting manufacturer was mentioned at M/s. Magadala Shipyard Pvt. Ltd., Surat There was no mention whether rig to be exported was used/second hand. The application was considered by the Advance Licensing Committee in the Directorate General, Foreign Trade on 6th July, 1993 and was rejected since there was no Standard Input-Output and Value Addition Norms for the resultant product "on-shore rig" fixed by then. The decision of the Committee was conveyed to the firms on 30th July, 1993. Since the application was rejected, there was no point on which action was warranted by the Directorate General of Foreign Trade.

Fifth Pay Commission

*39. DR SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Fifth Pay Commission has issued an elaborate Questionnaire to elicit replies and information from the various sections of the society.

(b) if so, to what category of persons have these Questionnaires been sent;

(c) what is the total number of Questionnaires sent;

(d) how many replies have been received by the Commission;

(e) to how many Members of Parliament were the Questionnaire sent;

(f) how many M.Ps. have sent back the replies;

(g) whether some of the questions were unnecessary; and

(h) in what manner will the replies be analysed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) to (d). The Fifth Pay Commission have issued a Questionnaire to 5746 persons from different walks of life like Members of Parliament, Chief Ministers, Governors and Chief Secretaries of States, Civil Servants, Professionals, Employees associations, Chairmen of Public Sector Units, Chairman-cum-Managing Directors of Private corporations, etc. So far, 1010 replies have been received by the Commission.

(e) and (f). The Questionnaire was sent to 768 Members of Parliament, of whom, 12 have responded.

(g) The Commission have informed that none of the Questions is unenecessary

(h) The Commission have put in place an elaborate system for consolidating the views, information and data contained in the replies. This will be made use of in formulating issues and finalising recommendations of the Commission.

विदेशी मुद्रा का लेन-देन करने वाले बैंक

*40. **श्री गोविन्द राव आदिक**: क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करें कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि देश में विदेशी मुद्रा में लेन-देन करने वाले बैंकों की संख्या बहुत कम है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ;

(ग) क्या सरकार भविष्य में ऐसी शाखाओं की संख्या को बढ़ाने संबंधी

अन्य शाखाओं को विदेशी मुद्रा में लेन-करने की अनुमति देने पर विचार रही है ;

(घ) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है ; और

(ङ) यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ?

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री एम० वी० चन्द्रशेखर मूर्ति) :(क) और (ख) भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक ने सूचित किया है कि आज तक 81 बैंकों को विदेशी मुद्रा में डील करने के लिए प्राधिकृत किया है । इन बैंकों की 21000 से अधिक शाखाएं विदेशी मुद्रा का लेनदेन करती हैं ।

(ग) से (ङ) विदेशी मुद्रा में लेनदेन करने हेतु समग्र बैंक को लाइसेंस दिया जाता है और बैंक, भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक से शाखावार अनुमोदन प्राप्त किए बिना अपनी शाखाओं को विदेशी मुद्रा में लेनदेन करने के लिए पदनामित करने के लिए स्वतंत्र होते हैं । संबंधित बैंक कारोबार की मात्रा के आधार पर, शाखाओं को इस काम के लिए शामिल करते हैं या इससे अलग करते हैं ।

Different seniority for cadre of Traffic Assistants

145. SHRI A. NALLASIVAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Air India has two seniorities for the cadre of Traffic Assistants at Bombay;

(b) if so, whether Traffic Assistants at Delhi, Calcutta and Madras also have such different seniorities; if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Air India has received representation from its employees, including physically handicapped, for rectification of such anomalies; and

(d) if so, what action Air India proposes to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. One list is meant for the Airport staff and the other for Booking Office and Space Management staff.

(c) and (d) The management of Air India received a representation from a physically handicapped employee for restoration of seniority lost on account of his voluntary transfer from Bombay Airport to Space Control Department. The matter is under examination.

Labour Relations Committee

146. SHRI A. NALLASIVAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) how many meetings of the present Labour Relations Committee have been held in Air India and Indian Airlines after its constitution;

(b) whether it is a fact that Air India is belittling this Committee by refusing to call its meetings;

(c) whether the representatives of the employees on this Committee in Air India have given any representation in this regard; and

(d) if so, what action the management of Air India has initiated thereafter?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) The present 16th Labour Relations Committee of Air India has held five meetings since its constitution in September 1994, while the present 17th Labour Relations Committee of Indian Airlines has held 7 meetings so far since its constitution in September 1993.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Do not arise